Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Third paragraph of page 41, lines 17-24 and first paragraph on page 42, lines 1-13:

In a subsequent operation 906, the requester initiates the performing of discovery of a desired I/O node connected to the nexus. In one embodiment, using the communication protocol level, the requester communicates with the desired I/O node and inquires as to the type of the I/O node. Once the I/O node receives this inquiry, it responds back to the requester revealing the type of the I/O node. For instance, in one embodiment, the I/O node may be a storage controller type device. Thereafter, in operation 907, the desired I/O node is enumerated by the requester inquiring as to the characteristics of the I/O node. For example, in one embodiment where the I/O node is a storage controller type device, the I/O node responds by enumerating its characteristics as follows: manufacturer, type, model, serial number, capabilities, software revision, and so on. In addition to storage ~~controllers~~ controller type devices, other devices such as a device supporting NFS protocols, or a device supporting CIFS protocols can be used. Each of the devices supporting NFS protocols and CIFS protocols are preferably implemented to enable file system sharing. Once the requester has determined the type and characteristics of the I/O node, the method then moves to an operation 908 where the devices connected to the desired I/O node are enumerated. That is, again, using the communication protocol level, the requester asks the I/O node to itemize the type and characteristics of devices connected to the desired I/O node. In this manner, the discovery and enumeration operations of the embodiments of the present invention enable the requester to determine whether the requester would like to access any of the devices connected to the desired I/O node.